

An interesting specimen of *O. evelyna* Woodr. has come to hand. It is structurally a perfectly normal female; but the color and pattern of its left side, instead of showing the usual unmarked green of that sex, is as in the male—pale yellow; dorsum from about middle to apex light reddish brown, crossed by a broad subapical transverse vitta of the anterior yellow. The right side is wholly normal. Similar masquerading in the colors of the opposite sex has been observed in the allied genera *Cyrtolobus* (including *Atymna* and *Xantholobus*) and *Telamona*; though here one needs to be on one's guard in sex determination because of the frequency of parasitism, and consequent distortion and malformation of the genital organs. This species, *O. evelyna*, proves to be a very common one in our southern states, in Alabama apparently favoring *Quercus coccinea* as its host plant.

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## PROCEEDINGS OF THE NEW YORK ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

MEETING OF JANUARY 16.

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held at 8 P.M., on January 16, 1923, President H. B. Weiss in the chair, with twelve members and three visitors present.

On nomination by Mr. Woodruff the following new members were elected:

Walter Everts, 245 West 69th St., New York City.

Dr. Charles A. Leale, 500 Madison Ave., New York City.

Mr. Davis exhibited six boxes of "Tabanid Flies of Staten Island and Long Island" and spoke of the impetus given to his studies by the work of Daecke, Hine, and Dr. Bequaert, as well as of the characteristics of various species of deer flies, horse flies, etc. Also of George Franck's experiences in collecting Tabanids from a tame cow.

Dr. Bequaert said that it was essential to have a really tame cow for the purpose and gave some instances of narrow escapes in Africa from cows that were only apparently tame. He had found a tent closed at one end with mosquito net, a help in collecting, and had obtained many specimens from dark corners on river steamboats. He gave some figures on the number of species thus far known from New Jersey, 82, Staten Island, 46, Long Island, 35, whole world, 2,200, as indicated by Sourcouf's work in *Genera Insectorum*. He reviewed Enderlein's work on the preliminary classification and that of Marchand and others on the life history. The difficulty of keeping Tabanids in captivity is increased by their exceedingly rapid flight, in which they destroy themselves against the cage. A double cage 20 x 15 feet with walls of mosquito net within the wire gauze had been tried.

Messrs. Davis, Woodruff, and Hallinan discussed the matter further, Tabanid liking for dark places, the biting of the female unpleasantly remembered by all, and their wonderful speed which Mr. Hallinan said he had computed from marked specimens and measured distances at (800?) miles an hour.

Mr. Dickerson spoke on "New Jersey Tingidæ" and especially on recent work by Mr. Weiss and Mr. Barber, with the 28 species known in New Jersey published in circular No. 54 New Jersey Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Davis recalled Mr. Heidemann's interest in these lace wing bugs.

Mr. Woodruff called attention to an insect article in the *Youth's Companion*.

Announcement was made of several matters for Messrs. Decker, Ditmars, and Brady.

#### MEETING OF FEBRUARY 6.

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held at 8 P.M., February 6, 1923, in the American Museum of Natural History, President Harry B. Weiss in the chair, with eleven members and two visitors present. The following new members were elected:

Chas. P. Alexander, Fernald Hall, Amherst, Mass.

A. M. Nadler, 413 Stratford Road, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Ralph B. Lott, Dayton, N. J.

Paul L. Mitchell, 408 Sumner Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

on nominations made by Messrs. Notman, Lutz, Weiss, and Davis.

Mr. Woodruff spoke of the coleopterous genus *Polydrusus* Germar, giving its history, definition, and distribution over the world, in part by commercial introduction. The life history of some species was then given and the American species specially considered, leading to the conclusion that specimens found by Mr. Woodruff in Alabama were undescribed.

Mr. Nicolay gave an account of an expedition made by Mr. Quirsfeld and himself as guests of Mr. Notman to Wallface Mt. in the Adirondacks in July, 1922. Among the interesting beetles found were *Elaphrus olivaceus*, *Sphaeroderus canadensis* and *brevoorti*, *Nomarectus bilobus*, *Pterostichus punctatissimus*, etc.

Mr. Notman supplemented his remarks by describing Scott's Pond near which the tents were pitched as being at about 3,000 ft. elevation and near the junction of the Hudsonian or Spruce zone with the Canadian zone of ash and maple trees. A large number of beetles caught by the party were exhibited.

Mr. Nelson spoke at some length on the biological control of certain insect pests, in which he had taken part. The cottony cushion scale at New Orleans in 1916 had been thus controlled by the introduction of Australian lady beetles; the gray scale of citrus in southern California by a small fly. He also spoke of the Argentine Ant in New Orleans marching in single file, 50 feet long, and the control effected by syrup carrying an arsenite weak enough not to kill the ants until after they had carried it to their nests; and of the pink boll worm of cotton introduced from Egypt and controlled only by burning the infected plants. His description also of an insect, possibly a pentatomid, watching over its eggs in Porto Rico developed an interesting discussion.

## MEETING OF FEBRUARY 20.

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held at 8 P.M., on February 20, 1923, in the American Museum of Natural History, President Harry B. Weiss in the chair, with eleven members present.

Mr. Edgar Nelson, 42 State St., Flushing, N. Y., was nominated for active membership by Mr. Leng.

Mr. Davis spoke with regret of Dr. Bequaert's approaching departure for Africa; he also referred with praise to Mr. J. S. Wade's catalogue of Government Entomological publications.

Mr. Woodruff having taken the chair, Mr. Weiss presented by diagrams the "Money Losses Due to Insects," comparing them with those due to climatic factors and showing the much greater irregularity and importance of the latter. Estimates received from thousands of farmers were used in compiling statistics for a few years past for each important crop; the number of years for which such figures were available was admitted to be insufficient for entirely satisfactory results, but it was maintained that they were more illuminating than some estimates expressed in dollars prepared by theoretical writers. Though some such estimates were quoted Mr. Weiss preferred to use percentages which showed plainly the fluctuating character of climatic damage and the comparatively uniform percentage of loss from insects excepting the recent rapid increase in boll weevil damage, offset to some extent by the advance in price of cotton.

Mr. Weiss having resumed the chair, Mr. Shoemaker exhibited seven boxes of admirably mounted Chrysomelidæ comprising the second half of his collection of 535 species, eight boxes comprising the first half, having been shown on a previous occasion. His personal collecting for 21 years in D. C., in the Catskills, Adirondacks, and on Long Island as well as many additions from Kunze's Arizona material and from exchanges were included. The neat arrangement of the collection as well as the many rarities were greatly admired. Among his 3,909 specimens were large series of *Calligrapha rowena*, *amelia*, and an apparently new species; a series of *Disonycha discoidea* with one specimen retouched with paint to recall its actual color in life; and there was added the type of *Saperda shoemakeri* to be described by Mr. Davis.

After a general discussion, during which Mr. Davis read abstracts from Mr. Blatchley's letters from South America, Mr. Nicolay spoke of his visits to Washington, and Dr. Sturtevant presented his entomological collections in England, Norway, Sweden, and Holland, to the Museum. The meeting adjourned.

## MEETING OF MARCH 6.

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held at 8 P.M., on March 6, 1923, in the American Museum of Natural History, President Harry B. Weiss in the chair, with fourteen members and three visitors present.

Mr. Davis spoke of Dr. Bequaert's approaching departure for Africa and the propriety of the Society passing a resolution relating thereto. He read one

he had prepared and on motion by Mr. G. W. J. Angell, seconded by Mr. Woodruff, it was adopted as follows:

"The members of the New York Entomological Society having learned that Dr. Joseph Bequaert is about to depart for Africa for a protracted stay, wish to express their appreciation of the great interest he has taken in the Society since he became a member in 1916, and also of the benefits that have come to it by reason of his learned discourses on a great variety of entomological subjects. It is their hope that his contemplated visit to the Congo River, like those of previous years, will be of value to him, and that with an even greater fund of information, he will ultimately return to America and the meetings of our Society."

Mr. Edgar Nelson, 42 State St., Flushing, N. Y., was elected an active member of the Society.

Dr. A. H. Sturtevant made an address illustrated by blackboard drawings on "The Seminal Receptacles and Accessory Glands of the Diptera" in which he praised the early work of Leon Dufour, 1844, on the internal genital apparatus of the females and the later work of Townsend and Pointely on Tachinidæ before explaining his own discoveries with better optical apparatus than Dufour had. The various types of spermotheca and of ventral receptacles were carefully described and illustrated and, while it was admitted that the relationships discovered could not be used conveniently in a key, yet they threw a great light upon the correct position in classification of some hitherto doubtful forms. Some of these, *Gymnopa* for example, were specially discussed at the close of his remarks.

Mr. Bird expressed his great admiration for the success of Dr. Sturtevant's work on these minute flies and the importance of his findings.

Mr. Nicolay read portions of his forthcoming paper written in conjunction with Mr. Weiss "On the Genus *Brachys* in America" which has been in progress since 1919. He said that eight species and three varieties occurred and that, apart from coloration, the form of the last ventral segment in the female had been found the most useful character. He showed his own and Mr. Leng's collection and stated that the plates had been drawn by Mr. Olsen.

Mr. Mutchler spoke of the recent finding in California of a specimen of *Trachychele opulenta*, within a felled sequoia which from its position must have lived 1,200 years ago. This led to a general discussion of sequoia growing in eastern United States. Mr. Davis mentioned one in Central Park; Mr. Bird one in Delaware 35 feet high; and to the relation of tree ring growth with sun spots.

Mr. Varrelman spoke of Van Duzee's work on beetles and of his own on *Teredo*.

Mr. G. W. J. Angell spoke of his pleasure in meeting his old friends in the Society again.

Mr. Fountain of Exeter, N. H., present as a visitor, spoke of his experiences in bee keeping.

## MEETING OF MARCH 20.

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held at 8 P.M., on March 20, 1923, in the American Museum of Natural History, President Harry B. Weiss in the chair, with twenty-one members and three visitors present. The Librarian reported accessions.

Mr. Bird read a paper on "Leiby's Recent Work on Polyembryony" illustrated by a Riker Mount showing the image and larva of a species of *Plusia* with 1,732 examples of *Copidosoma truncatellum* which had emerged, all being the development from a single polyembryonic egg.

The paper and remarks are a complimentary resume of R. W. Leiby's publication in Journal of Morphology, Vol. 37, No. 1, on the polyembryonic development of *Copidosoma gelechie*.

After an eight years study, that author has brought out an exhaustive cytological treatment of the processes of polyembryony, illustrated by nearly one hundred figures, and it becomes the foremost exposition yet accorded the subject in America.

Attention is called by the speaker to the possible value in the remarkable increase in parasitic, polyembryonic species, and that they may be of much economic moment, if of avail.

Mr. Notman exhibited "Beetles from Sylvan Beach, Lake Oneida" and described the locality as flat, sandy marshes, with a fifty foot wide sandy beach in places. Some unusual captures resulted, enormous quantities of *Dyschirius pallipennis*, and large numbers of *Cicindela hirticollis* and *Omophron tessellatum*. A slow stream flowed into the lake; along its banks *Georyssus* was common and *Omophron americanum* replaced the *tessellatum* of the beach.

Mr. J. C. Bridwell, present as a visitor, gave some interesting notes on Bruchidae among other items:

- Zabrotes subnitens* on Strawberry blossoms.
- Bruchus musculus* on *Desmodium bracteosum*.
- Bruchus perforatus* on *Astragalus canadensis*.
- Bruchus discoidens* on Bindweed.

He also spoke of the Chrysomelid habit of covering thin, delicate eggs with excrement as a protection from desiccation. *Dibolia*, for instance, bites a hole in plantain leaves and deposits there an egg bearing the family badge of excrement.

Mr. Jones spoke briefly of a recent visit to Bermuda and Mr. Nelson of his intended summer at Mt. Morris, N. Y.

## MEETING OF APRIL 3.

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held at 8 P.M., on April 3, 1923, in the American Museum of Natural History, President Harry B. Weiss in the chair, with thirteen members present.

The following new members were elected:

Loren B. Smith, Japanese Beetle Laboratory, Riverton, New Jersey.

A. F. Satterthwait, U. S. Entomological Laboratory, Webster Groves, Md.

W. R. Walton, Bureau of Entomology, Washington, D. C.

Wm. O. Ellis, 10 Court St., Arlington, Mass.

Mr. Erdman West, New Jersey Agricultural Department, Trenton, N. J., was proposed by Mr. Weiss.

Mr. Leng spoke of the genus *Statira*, describing the peculiar elongation of the last joint of the antennæ and the elytral sculpture and vestiture that characterize its species. The work of several authors, particularly Dr. Horn and Mr. Schaffer, was mentioned, and finally a new species from Florida discovered by Mr. Chas. Liebeck, of Philadelphia, was exhibited and its differences displayed.

Mr. Davis exhibited Walking Stick insects found on Long Island and Staten Island, especially females of *Manomera blatchleyi* from Illinois and Indiana, with females of var. *atlantica* from this vicinity. Their differences were explained and the curious fact that no males of *atlantica* were known was pointed out.

Mr. Davis also exhibited Cicadas described in the last number of the JOURNAL.

Dr. Sturtevant exhibited a collection of Diptera and Hymenoptera arranged to show many instances of apparent mimicry.

Mr. Notman exhibited the rare butterfly *Erora lata* collected at Keene Valley, N. Y., in various years at dates ranging from May 16th to June 16th.

Mr. Dickerson exhibited a roach pressed between layers of cardboard to show its resemblance to fossil imprints.

Mr. Shoemaker exhibited Tenebrionid larvæ found in the excelsior packing of a box received from Germany.

Dr. Janvrin exhibited a *Cicindela sexguttata* from Teaneck, N. J., collected in May, nearly immaculate and violet in color.

Mr. Mutchler pointed out that while the varietal name *violacea* was at present applied to specimens from Kansas exclusively, it was very unlikely that the types of Fabricius were collected there.

Dr. Lutz spoke of his approaching trip to Paradise Key, Fla., a hummock in the Everglades, where the Cuban Pine and Royal Palm, 60 years old, grew on account of absence of killing frost and where in a reservation of virgin condition, he hoped to obtain some interesting insects.

Mr. Sherman spoke of the high prices obtained for certain natural history books at recent auction sales, averaging at least 25 per cent. more than any previous records. A list of birds by Theodore Roosevelt, which once sold for forty cents, reached the climax by bringing \$27.50.

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**Errata.**—Volume XXXI, p. 156, for *Acer saccharinum* read *Acer saccharum*; for *Quercus prinus* read *Quercus prinus*.